IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:	)	
Markus Noller et al.	)	
In Continuation of International Application No. PCT/EP00/07550	)	
Filed August 3, 2000	)	
DEVICE FOR EXTRUDING PLASTIC COMPOUNDS	)	January 23, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

As a Preliminary Amendment to the above-referenced Application, please enter the following amendments prior to computing the filing fees therefore.

IN THE CLAIMS :

Please amend claims 3, 5, 6 and 7 as follows:

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Sheryl L Hutchings
Signature of person mailing paper or fee

We claim:

3. Device according to Claim 1, characterised in that the measured variable is the flow rate of the compound.

5. Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a transport instrument (16) for removing the compound extruded from the die (14),

- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and

- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the transport instrument (16), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the transport velocity (v_t) of the transport instrument (16) corresponds to the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14).

6. Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a rotary instrument (26) having at least one rotatable die (14),

- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and

- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the rotary instrument (26), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14) fluctuates minimally.

7. Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

- a feed instrument (12) is connected through a plurality of channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c) to a die (14) having a plurality of outlet openings, and

- a sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is in each case arranged at the channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c) or at the outlet openings of the die (14).

REMARKS

Attached hereto are pages 5-6 that present a marked up version of the changes made to the claims by this preliminary amendment. Page 5 is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 3, 5, 6 and 7 have been amended as follows:

[Patent Claims] We claim:

3. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1 [or 2], characterised in that the measured variable is the flow rate of the compound.

5. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3 [or 4], characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a transport instrument (16) for removing the compound extruded from the die (14),

- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and

- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the transport instrument (16), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the transport velocity (v_t) of the transport instrument (16) corresponds to the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14).

6. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, [4 or 5] characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a rotary instrument (26) having at least one rotatable die (14),

- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and

- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the rotary instrument (26), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14) fluctuates minimally.

7. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, [4, 5 or 6] characterised in that

- a feed instrument (12) is connected through a plurality of channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c) to a die (14) having a plurality of outlet openings, and

- a sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is in each case arranged at the channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c) or at the outlet openings of the die (14).